



*To honor our past and inspire generations of people to experience, connect with,
and protect our cultural and natural resources.*

Dear Yosemite supporter:

On June 30, 2014, we will mark the 150th anniversary of the Yosemite Grant Act signed by President Abraham Lincoln, thereby protecting Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove. As you may know, these two special places, found in what is now Yosemite National Park, were the first resources in the world set aside for preservation – planting the seed for the national park idea.

To honor this significant milestone in our nation's history, we have embarked on a community driven partnership called the Yosemite Grant 150th Anniversary Program. Our team has quickly realized that only together, will we be able to recognize the true significance of this historic act and its contribution to our nation's heritage. *A part of our vision in honoring this anniversary is to see nearly one hundred activities take place over a years' time in the many Yosemite communities.* If you have an annual educational program that you would like to adopt the theme of the Yosemite Grant 150th or if you would like to create a signature program, we invite you to apply. The program application is attached and below you will find information handy in completing the application.

Why apply to host an official Yosemite Grant 150th Anniversary program? The benefits of an official program include:

- The right to use the official Anniversary logo
- Inclusion in the Anniversary Calendar of Activities
- Inclusion in the permanent list of approved projects
- Promotion with other anniversary projects through press releases, newsletters, and other resources from the Anniversary Committee
- Receipt of an Official Anniversary Project Certificate
- An invitation to a one-time reception for all Yosemite Grant 150th host participants

When are the deadlines and how does the process work?

- To be included in the printed calendar of activities:
 - **The deadline for events taking place in 2013 is December 13, 2012**
 - **The deadline for events taking place in 2014 is June 13, 2013**
- Do not worry if you missed the deadline for the printed calendar of activities! Your event can still be considered and if approved, will be included in the official web-based calendar.
- Applications will be reviewed and approved by the Events Subcommittee. Once you have completed the application, please mail it to: Kass Hardy, PO Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389 or email it to: kassandra_hardy@nps.gov
- All applicants will receive a letter notifying them of the decision regarding their application. Those organizers of approved events will receive a certificate by mail and the Yosemite Grant 150th logo by email in a format for reproduction on your event material.
- For more information, please go to: www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary

Again, thank you for your interest in honoring and sharing the 150th Anniversary of the Yosemite Grant.

Yosemite Grant 150th Programs Subcommittee

12. If the program is inside the park:

- a. What if any, are the safety concerns associated with this Program? How will they be addressed?
- b. Does the Program have the potential to harm park resources? If so, how will these potential impacts be eliminated or mitigated?

13. Is there a cost to participate in the proposed Program? If so, what is the amount and purpose of the cost?

14. In honoring the 150th Anniversary of the Yosemite Grant, one of our main objectives is to demonstrate the exemplary environmental leadership in Yosemite's past and present. We hope that audiences--inspired by Yosemite's example--will gain new understanding concerning the importance of resource conservation and other environmental concerns not only within but beyond park borders.

How will your program support this objective? (check all that apply and provide any additional information below)

Our program will:

- ☐ Use public transportation
- ☐ Use biodegradable products
- ☐ Offer recycling
 - ☐ And be placed near trash receptacles for convenience
- ☐ Offer composting
- ☐ Offer food products produced within 100 miles of our community
- ☐ Donate excess food to local food banks and/or shelters
- ☐ Offer refillable water stations to minimize the use of plastic bottles
- ☐ Go paperless by using email, Facebook, and/or other forms of electronic resources to get the word out about our event
- ☐ Print all publicity materials on recycled paper
- ☐ Post small signs where appropriate to make the green aspects of our event more visible (e.g. label organic, local, fairly traded food, etc.)

Any additional green information you want to share:

15. Proposed dates of Program _____

16. Proposed Location of Program _____

17. Website for your program _____

18. Contact information for Program (for public use):

Please include a resume and/or the qualifications of the presenter (s) to ensure that the interpretive or educational Program will meet National Park Service standards of accuracy, current scholarship/research, and professionalism.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK – PRIMARY INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION THEMES

- **BIRTH OF THE NATIONAL PARK IDEA:** Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove were the first globally recognized scenic natural areas to be set aside by any government for public benefit and appreciation of landscape beauty, making Yosemite the birthplace of the national park idea, which has spread throughout the world
- **MARIPOSA GROVE OF BIG TREES:** Giant sequoias offer opportunities for sharing Yosemite-related stories, including the inspiration to create the Yosemite Grant, the preservation of unique places, survival, and the wonder of living things so old and so large.
- **BIRTHPLACE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE:** Yosemite National Park, the first area set aside by a national government as a public park, is the perfect place to tell the history of the national park movement. The first people to be called *Park* Rangers worked in Yosemite just before the creation of the NPS. The Service was founded on the work of organizations like the University of California, Berkeley, and the Sierra Club, and dedicated leaders like Professor Joseph LeConte, John Muir, Stephen Mather, and others, and their connections with Yosemite. In the years since the founding, other organizations, like the CCC, have helped to build the infrastructure of the place a way that supports its wild nature.
- **A WORLD HERITAGE SITE:** Yosemite National Park has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO for its geological beauty, its ecological richness, and because *“Yosemite’s natural beauty was the impetus ... for the first implementation of the national park concept as we know it today.”*
- **A RICH ECOSYSTEM AND HUMAN HISTORY IN A GRAND GEOLOGY:** As stated in the World Heritage Site description, *“Yosemite National Park, on the west slope of the central Sierra Nevada Mountains, is an area of outstanding scenic beauty and great wilderness value. The park represents practically all the different environments found within the Sierra Nevada, including sequoia groves, historic resources, evidence of Indian habitation, and domes, valleys, polished granites and other geological features illustrating the formation of the mountain range.”*
- **A WORLD CENTER FOR WILDERNESS ART:** Albert Bierstadt, Carleton Watkins, Thomas Hill, Chiura Obata, Maynard Dixon, Ansel Adams, Galen Rowell, Kimi Kodani Hill, the makers of Awahneeche baskets, and many other artists have helped share the beauty of Yosemite with the people of planet Earth. In addition, the park’s architecture, as evidenced in the Ranger Club, Parson’s Lodge, the LeConte Memorial, the Ahwahnee Hotel, and other structures including the beautiful overlooks, are fine examples of Arts and Crafts architecture – an architecture that seems to grow from the natural world. These works of art and architecture help humans feel the importance of preserving, protecting, and stewarding this and similar wild places.
- **BIRTHPLACE OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WILDERNESS EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION:** Yosemite National Park offered the first National Park Service

Interpretive Programs, which built on programs offered by the University of California, Berkeley, and the Sierra Club. From this humble beginning, supported by Director Stephen T. Mather, the world-wide network of interpretive and educational programs in parks and similar places has grown.

- **WILDERNESS:** Yosemite National Park offers a variety of wilderness experiences that provide the challenges and rewards of encountering nature on its own terms while conveying the necessity of stewardship for the land.
- **A PLACE FOR RE-CREATION:** “Recreation” actually means a re-creation of the human spirit through vigorous personal contact with wild nature. Yosemite is the first place set aside so masses of people could experience re-creation -- via “classical camping” and vigorous outdoor recreation like backpacking and climbing.
- **NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN CONNECTIONS:** The ancient connection between the Piute peoples, especially the Awahneeche, and the landscape and resources of the area known today as Yosemite National Park is seen in their history, traditions, language, and contemporary values. The name of the park itself comes from their language.
- **THE INCOMPARABLE VALLEY AS A CAUTIONARY TALE:** The iconic glacial valley known as Yosemite Valley is unmatched in its beauty, and its natural and cultural history. But the Valley is now in danger of being loved to death. As it was necessary in the early days to protect the park from those who would despoil it, now it is necessary to protect the park from those who would love it to death. In developing the means to do so, Yosemite National Park is developing a new model of preservation, which promises to continue Yosemite’s role as a place for re-creation, but to prevent overuse which would work against wise stewardship of its wild geology and ecology.
- **GEOTOURISM:** Geotourism is defined as tourism that sustains or enhances the geographical character of a place—its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well-being of its residents. Geotourism incorporates the concept of sustainable tourism—that destinations should remain unspoiled for future generations—while allowing for ways to protect a place's character. Geotourism also takes a principle from its ecotourism cousin—that tourism revenue should promote conservation—and extends it to culture and history as well, that is all distinctive assets of a place. Through this site we invite you to visit and experience the distinctive landscape and communities of the Sierra Nevada.

ASSOCIATED FEES

There is a nominal fee for using the logo at your Official Yosemite Grant 150th program, which is paid to the Yosemite Conservancy on behalf of the Yosemite Grant 150th Anniversary program.

- If you are a non-profit and are not charging at your program, there is no fee.
- If you are a non-profit and you are charging at your program, you must pay a minimum of 5% of your admission proceeds.
- If you are a for-profit and are not charging at your program, there is one-time \$50 fee.
- If you are a for-profit and are charging at your program, you must pay a minimum of 5% of your admission proceeds (the \$50 one-time fee is waived in this situation).

APPLICATION DEADLINES AND PROCESS

Mail/Email completed application form to:

Kass Hardy

PO Box 577

Yosemite, CA 95389

kassandra_hardy@nps.gov

The deadline to be included in the printed calendar of 2013 activities is **December 13, 2012**. The application will remain open for 2014 activities until **June 1, 2013**. Applications may still be submitted after the deadlines, however if they are approved, they can only be included in the official web-based calendar of activities. Applications will be reviewed and approved by the Programs Subcommittee. Applications only are required, presentations are not necessary.

APPROVAL NOTIFICATION:

All applicants will receive a letter notifying them of the decision regarding their application. Those organizers of approved programs will receive a certificate by mail and the [Yosemite Grant 150th logo standards](#), following by the logo in a format for reproduction on event materials.

Questions or concerns can be directed to the Yosemite Grant 150th Programs Committee:

Kass Hardy

Anniversary Coordinator

P.O. Box 577

Yosemite, CA 95389

kassandra_hardy@nps.gov